

What's New in 2006

**New federal laws will change this year's elections.
Learn how they will impact you and your vote.**

New Identification Requirements

To register or re-register to vote after January 1, 2006, you **must** provide a California driver's license or state ID number, if you have one, in the fields provided on the voter registration form. If you don't have either of these, you must provide the last four numbers of your social security number in the field provided. If you do not have a California driver's license, state ID number, or social security number, you can still register to vote, but if you have this information you must provide it.

The elections official must verify your ID number before putting you on the list of registered voters, so be sure to register well in advance of the election.

Some people who registered by mail for the first time in California and did not fill in their ID number may have to show ID when they vote at a polling place, or include a photocopy of their ID with their absentee ballot. Contact your local elections official if you have questions.

To find your elections official,

 call **1-800-345-vote** or

 visit **www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm**

Voting Equipment Must Be Accessible to Voters with Disabilities

New federal law requires that beginning in 2006, each polling place must have at least one voting machine available to voters with disabilities.

Voters with disabilities should be able to vote privately and independently.

be heard
vote!



Your County May Have New Voting Equipment

Many counties have purchased new voting systems to meet federal and state laws. If you are not familiar with how to cast a ballot on this system, ask the precinct worker to show you how the system works.


All voting systems in California must pass strict tests and meet all federal and state standards before being approved for use.

You Have the Right to Cast a Ballot

If you are not on the list at your polling place, you have the right to cast a “provisional” ballot. The poll worker will give you information about how to find out if your vote was counted, and if it was not, why not.

A “provisional” ballot is just like a regular ballot, except it goes into an envelope or pending status until the election official can determine your eligibility. The ballot will be counted if the election official can determine your eligibility.

If you are in the wrong polling place, the poll worker may try to help you by giving you directions to the right polling place, where your name should be on the list and you could vote a regular ballot. If you choose not to go there, you can vote a provisional ballot.

 For more information about California elections, visit the Secretary of State’s web site at www.ss.ca.gov.

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